MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Hss the Government any objection to invest certain Tahsildars with magisterial powers?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is not necessary. Moreover, the member knows that Government invest their Tahsildars with magisterial power only very sparingly in view of the general policy enunciated by them.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know how many Tahsildars were invested very recently with magisterial powers.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Very few.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Were not about 20 Tahsildars invested with magisterial powers?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): In view of the fact that there is a Police Station at Mavelikara, does the Government consider it necessary to confer on the Mavelikara Tahsildar magsterial powers?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The distance from Kayankulam to Mavelikara or Mavelikara to Chengannur is not much.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What is the distance?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): 12 miles is not long in these days of motor traffic.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is there motor traffic from Palamel to Kayankulam?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is motor traffic from Mavelikara.

Expenditure on the land etc., for the bridge across the Kulakkada river on the Mavelikara—Tiruvalla road.

82. ***MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount spent till now (2-12-1108) for the land and the preliminary works for the bridge across the Kulakkada river on the Mavelikara-Tiruvalla road; and

(*b*) the reasons for not carrying out the work on which some expenditure has been incurred?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): (*a*) A sum of Rs.1,690-1-0 has been spent till the end of Karkadagom 1106.

(*b*) The work is held up for want of funds.

Levy of fees from pupils of depressed classes.

83. ***MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether instructions have been issued by the Director of Public Instruction to the Headmasters and Managers to levy school fees in the first instance from all pupils irrespective of their belonging to depressed or backward communities and to refund such fees in cases of proved inability to pay?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Instructions were issued by the Director of Public Instruction in the case of pupils of depressed communities that the fees levied in the first instance should be refunded after making an enquiry into their financial condition, and that the enquiry should not take more than one month. In the case of backward communities, the usual procedure has been followed. But it has since been ordered that such enquiries may be dropped, and that ordinarily depressed class pupils should be regarded as eligible for the concession, except where the school authorities know that any particular pupil is well-to-do, in which case the concession may be denied to such pupil.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): ഹെഡ്മാസ്റ്റർമാരും മാനേജർമാരും എല്ലാ കുട്ടികളുടെ അടുത്തുനിന്നും ഫീസ് പിരിക്കണമെന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് ഒന്നാമത്തെതവണതന്നെ ഫീസടയ്ക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെ അധ്യേതവിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾ വെളിയിൽ പോകേണ്ടതായിട്ടു വരികയില്ലേ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I have already said that enquiries are going on.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*): May I know what was the reason for the original order?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Inrtruction*): In the case of half fee concession we followed this practice. So when Government revised the order with regard to the full fee concession, we followed the same procedure.

PRESIDENT Question time is over. The remaining questions will be taken up tomorrow.

I wish to ask all non-official members to meet in this Hall after 5 O' clock on Monday to elect two members to the Standing Finance Committee and two members to the Public Accounts Committee. I will ask Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar, one of the panel of Chairmen, to conduct the elections. The election will be by ballot.

The discussion will continue on the Police Demand. The House was discussing Mr. Kesavan Sastri's motion No. 223.

MR. B. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Commissioner of Police*): Sir, in connection with the enlistment of constables Mr. Kesavan Sastri and Mr. John Joseph spoke a few words in appreciation. I thank them for that. But Mr. Joseph said that in all the enlistments this sort of consideration should be shown to the depressed classes. If this is shown, it is not possible for me to encourage the least represented classes and any other classes. In the enlistment previous to the last there was a complaint that no wide publicity was given to the depressed classes and so only very few appeared from those communities. Hence I issued a notification in the Government Gazette in which I stated that preference would

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly